

TRIBUTE TO DR. DAVID PLATT  
RALL

**HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 25, 1999*

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to talk about some distressing recent developments in the wake of the tragic death on September 28 of environmental medicine pioneer Dr. David Platt Rall.

Dr. Rall tragically died late last month from injuries sustained in a car accident while vacationing in France. His wife, Gloria Monteiro Rall, was badly injured in the accident, but is recovering. I know the thoughts and prayers of many of us go out to her and Dr. Rall's entire family.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Rall was a giant in the world of science. His credentials are long, but the highlights include running the federal National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and the National Toxicology Program (NTP) simultaneously, Assistant Surgeon General in the U.S. Public Health Service, scientific counselor to the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health, chair of the World Health Organization's Program on Chemical Safety, foreign secretary of the National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine, board member of the Alliance to End Childhood Lead Poisoning and the Environmental Defense Fund. He had conducted breakthrough cancer research early in his career at the National Cancer Institute and he was husband, father and a grandfather.

Kenneth Olden, the current director of both NIEHS and NTP, calls Dr. Rall, "a pioneer, who established the credibility of our two federal environmental health organizations and set the paces. We are standing on his broad shoulders."

This man accomplished far more than many of us will manage to do in our lives. And, all of this work was devoted to advancing the cause of human health—and millions of people are the better for it.

It is a sad sign of our times, Mr. Speaker, when the death of such an individual becomes an invitation for cheap political attack to those who found his brilliance and accomplishments threatening.

One such person is chemical industry lobbyist and Cato Institute Adjunct Scholar Steven Milloy, who turned Dr. Rall's tragic death into what can only be seen as a callous, self-promotional opportunity.

Mr. Milloy runs a web site that features a cartoon of himself in devil costume, complete with horns, and tail. He calls himself the "Junkman," and junk certainly seems to be his main product. His self-appointed job is to denigrate the research of public interest groups and serious, accomplished academics.

But the Junkman reached a new low when on October 2, he posted a mocking "Obituary of the Day," on Dr. Rall's death, saying, and I quote, "Scratch one junk scientist".

The Cato Institute was alerted to this language by an outraged public interest group. President Edward H. Crane responded with—what seemed at the time—class and dignity, saying Milloy had an "inexcusable lapse in

judgment and civility" with his "appallingly offensive comments."

In the face of that unequivocal rebuke, what did Mr. Milloy do? He refused to apologize, then posted even more vitriol the following day. His web site on October 12 said, "As far as David Rall is concerned, he was a bad guy when he was alive . . ." and that, "Death did not improve his track record."

Mr. Speaker, if this language isn't outrageous enough, the response of the Cato Institute to this second round of remarks was worse. When 11 heads of public health, consumer and environmental groups wrote Mr. Crane to sever his ties to Mr. Milloy, Mr. Crane chose not to respond. When Dr. Rall's surviving brother and two environmental group heads wanted to meet with Mr. Crane, Mr. Crane flatly refused. His rationale? The offensive web material had come down and he thought the matter was "closed."

The matter, Mr. Speaker, is far from closed. There are still no apologies to the Rall family, and Cato has taken no position on this second round of highly offensive comments. Never mind that the "junkman's" junk is out in the press now, posted on the Internet for friends and loved ones of Dr. Rall to read—along with the rest of the world.

The Cato Institute, with its silence and inaction tells media, the public and this Congress that Cato accepts this behavior and will reward the "Junkman" with a continued institutional home—no matter how badly it denigrates someone else, no matter how great the person who is being denigrated.

I call on the Cato Institute to show the same class and dignity they showed when first alerted to this situation and take additional, stronger action. Doing so would send an important message that while someone is free to say what he or she wants—however offensive—there are consequences for such actions. This is an especially libertarian view that I am sure the Cato Institute can understand.

IN HONOR OF PRESIDENT JULIUS  
NYERERE

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 25, 1999*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, as the world mourns the death of President Julius Nyerere, I wish to send the deepest condolences to the people of Tanzania.

For many years, the world has come to know President Julius Nyerere as a pioneer for change. He was committed to his people and was a leader whose only ambition was to build a strong nation and a solid future for Africa. That is why he was a great statesman and a favored son of millions of Africans.

President Nyerere fought for his nation's independence and was elected to lead Tanganyika in 1961. In 1964, President Nyerere peacefully united Tanganyika with the island of Zanzibar, forming the Republic of Tanzania. He served as the leader of that nation for nearly twenty-five years. A proud father of a post-colonial nation, he worked to translate that pride and success to all of Africa.

All righteous people admired him, for he was a fearless pursuer of justice. He stood tall and spoke up against African strongmen and brutal dictators like Uganda's Idi Amin and the minority rule in South Africa.

President Nyerere voluntarily stepped down in 1985. A world leader, he built a solid foundation for his nation so that it can peacefully grow and flourish. He returned to his modest farm, but remained a powerful voice for peace and a relentless ambassador for the needs of Africans and the African continent.

He died at the age of 77 while trying to meditate an end to the war in Burundi. At the time of his death, President Nyerere was engaged in his favorite activity—finding a way to lead Africa on a journey of lasting prosperity and peace. For all he has given to his nation, his beloved continent and its people, and the world, I am certain that his legend will live on forever. Having had the good fortune to work with the 9th Congressional District African and Caribbean Advisory Committee, I know that his influence has been broadly felt and am hopeful that his spirit will guide us in the future.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT M. BEREN

**HON. KEN BENTSEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 25, 1999*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Robert M. Beren, a benefactor whose generosity in Houston was recently recognized by the renaming of The Hebrew Academy at 5435 S. Braeswood. The school is now named Robert M. Beren Academy, in recognition of Mr. Beren's generous philanthropic contributions.

An oil and gas producer from Wichita, Kansas, Mr. Beren's ties to Houston run deep. His Houston grandchildren, Irene Beren Jefferson, Elizabeth Beren Jefferson, and Alexander Beren Jefferson benefit from the education at what will henceforward be known as Robert M. Beren Academy. His eldest daughter, Nancy T. Beren, and her husband, Larry S. Jefferson, M.D., are both extremely active in the Houston community. Following in her father's footsteps, Ms. Beren contributes her time and energy to projects and organizations that benefit children and families. It is especially fitting that Ms. Beren recently served for 2 years as President of Robert M. Beren Academy and that Dr. Jefferson currently serves on its Board of Education.

Robert M. Beren's penchant for giving revolves around two principles: his philosophy of reinforcing a strong Jewish background and his belief in an excellent secular education. By supporting Houston's only modern orthodox Jewish day school, Mr. Beren promotes both of these ideals.

Mr. Beren's own educational history illustrates his love of academic challenge. After graduating from Marietta High School in Marietta, Ohio, he went on to graduate cum laude from Harvard College with a B.A. in Economics. He then graduated with high distinction from Harvard's Graduate School of Business Administration. In addition to pursuing his personal studies, Robert Beren distinguished himself by serving our country as a soldier in the

U.S. Army during World War II. His keen business sense and organizational talents have served him well as President and Chairman of BEREXCO, INC., a successful oil company he oversees in Wichita, Kansas.

Robert Beren is extremely proud of his 13 grandchildren and his four children: Nancy T. Beren, Amy Beren Bressman, Julie Beren Platt, and Adam E. Beren. He has set a shining example, not only for his own family, but also for all of those who strive to give back and benefit others. The endless hours and vast resources that Mr. Beren has bestowed on religious institutions, civic organizations, and institutions of higher learning reveal where his heart lies. He is currently Vice-Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Yeshiva University; a Member of the Board of Overseers Committee for Harvard College; President of the Robert M. Beren Foundation, Inc.; Sole Trustee of the Israel Henry Beren Charitable Trust; and Board member of the Ohr Stone Institutions of Israel, the Hebrew Congregation, and the Mid-Kansas Jewish Appeal. In the past, he has given freely of his time to the Wichita Public School System, the Wichita Area Chamber of Commerce, the United Way, and the Anti-Defamation League, always with the ideal in mind of enhancing his community for the common good.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mr. Beren on a lifetime of outstanding contributions to his community. I especially thank him for making the new school building for Houston's Robert M. Beren Academy a reality. With Mr. Beren's help, the school will continue to instill in its students the knowledge and ideals associated with their Jewish heritage while providing an excellent secular education to carry with them throughout their lives.

TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH "BIZ"  
STEINBERG

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Elizabeth "Biz" Steinberg, executive director of the Economic Opportunity Commission of San Luis Obispo Inc. in my district in California. Last Friday, October 22, Biz received the Excellence in Leadership Award from the California Association of Nonprofits in Oakland, California. She was chosen from a field of 37 leaders.

I am obviously not alone in being terribly proud of Biz Steinberg. In the congratulatory letter sent to her in honor of this award, the CAN executive director said: "The selection committee was overwhelmed by your consistent display of excellence and commitment both to your organization and the community. The work you are doing in San Luis Obispo is heroic and truly an inspiration to the nonprofit sector."

Indeed, Mr. Speaker, Biz is a hero to many of us. Her unflinching grace and tireless effort on behalf of the community she serves with daily passion inspires all who know her. For the past 15 years, Biz has headed the EOC in San Luis Obispo County. When Congress

founded the EOC in 1965 during the War against Poverty, I am sure that Biz's is the kind of leadership that members of Congress envisioned: one of determination and cooperation and courage.

IN HONOR OF THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMMISSION ON CATHOLIC COMMUNITY ACTION

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the thirtieth anniversary of the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland's Commission on Catholic Community Action.

The Commission on Catholic Community Action was established in 1969 with a mission to protect and promote human dignity and advance justice for all. Successful in their mission, the CCCA has played a pivotal role in the rebirth of Cleveland. Focusing on urban redevelopment, the CCCA has organized, promoted, and made a difference in neighborhood issues such as job training, economic empowerment, environmental justice, and peacemaking.

With an outlook to reduce poverty and discrimination, the CCCA has sponsored and co-sponsored numerous seminars, speeches, and awards banquets. Keynote speakers at these events have educated the public on issues such as the Holocaust and prejudice reduction. Generating community awareness throughout Cleveland, the CCCA has provided participants with a new appreciation for celebrating multicultural diversity within the city.

Through hard work and determination, the CCCA has truly improved life opportunities for urban residents of Cleveland. Upholding this tradition of giving and caring, the CCCA has made Cleveland's urban residents culturally and economically stronger. Congratulations to the Commission on Catholic Community Action for thirty years of service and on continuing their mission into the new millennium.

My fellow colleagues, join me in honoring the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland's Commission on Catholic Community Action as they celebrate their thirtieth anniversary.

STUDENT RESULTS ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2) to send more dollars to the classroom and for certain other purposes:

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Chairman, I rise today in support of the Mink-Woolsey-Sanchez-Morella amendment to restore current gender equity provisions from Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act

to H.R. 2., the Student Results Act. We must ensure that girls succeed in school.

Since the passage of Title IX a quarter-century ago, America's schools have been expected to provide the same opportunities for girls as well as boys. While a great deal of progress has been made, a gender gap still exists in America's schools.

Studies show that more than half of all female students take no high school math beyond Algebra 2. In a global economy, where science and technology advances are paramount, this closes doors on future studies, scholarships and careers for these female students.

This amendment will retain gender equity provisions in current law, including the Women's Educational Equity Act (WEEA). The amendment encourages the training of teachers to treat boys and girls fairly in the classroom. It targets dropout prevention programs for at-risk youth, as well as pregnant and parenting teenagers. It also allows the training of teachers to encourage girls to pursue careers and higher education degrees in mathematics, science, engineering and technology.

The amendment is supported by over 70 organizations, including the Girl Scouts of America; the National Education Association; the American Association of University Women; and the National Parent Teacher Association. The National Women's Law Center, which also supports this amendment, writes:

[The] Elimination of the Women's Educational Equity Act signifies the dissolution of the only federal program that specifically targets and tackles the barriers to educational opportunities for women and girls.

They give an example of a 1999 WEEA program that created and implemented an on-line course for teachers called "Engaging Middle School Girls in Math and Science." This program helps to ensure that stereotypes and biases do not eliminate educational opportunities for girls.

However, this is just one of many programs and services provided by WEEA. Generally, WEEA represents the federal commitment ensuring that girls' future choices and success are determined not by their gender, but by their own interests, aspirations, and abilities. It is a comprehensive resource for teachers, administrators, and parents seeking proven methods to ensure equity in their school systems and communities.

Let's do the smart thing. Let's do the right thing. Support the Mink/Woolsey/Sanchez/Morella amendment. We must give all students, girls and boys alike, the chance to learn, excel and achieve.

HONORING THE REDEDICATION OF THE YOUNG ISRAEL SHOMRAI EMUNAH OF GREATER WASHINGTON

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Young Israel Shomrai Emunah of Greater Washington. On October